

MEMORANDUM

TO: Files

FROM: Sarah T. Landtiser

SUBJECT: Koppers South Cavalcade, Hoston  
Compliance Monitoring Week of 10/21/86 thru 10/24/86

DATE: October 24, 1986

Activity at the South Cavalcade site was low this week. Originally, plans were made to continue drilling of the deep monitor well DW-01. The unsatisfactory condition of the surface casing completion to 142 feet necessitated abandonment by Koppers Co. The unsatisfactory condition included the following items:

- 1) A substandard grout mixture was used. Specifications called for a 50% bentonite mix - a 10% mix is more reasonable. Resultant grout never set up hard, even after 3 days.
- 2) A leak in the casing was evident by a dropping water level as measured inside the casing. It was postulated that water was passing into the adjacent formation through the end slip cap.
- 3) A slight creosote odor noted inside the casing indicated that the casing interior had become contaminated.
- 4) Several problems during installation of the casing as well as encountered during the grouting operation raised several doubts as to the integrity of the grout, ex: channelization of the grout thereby reducing the strength.

With these concerns, coupled with the challenge of augering inside the casing with very little excess space (3/4") to work with, Koppers Co. decided to abandon the well. This decision was made after meeting with David Parker and Bill Tobin, McBride-Ratcliff, Arlen Barge, Ray Myer and Bob Sneed, Southwest Laboratories and myself on 10/22/86 and the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the situation and possible alternatives to be presented to Koppers.

During the meeting, Bill Tobin informed me that the offsite boring program was to be reinitiated the next day, 10/23/86. No drilling was done on 10/23/86 due to rain. On 10/24/86 a deep boring to the east of the site was made. A very slight odor between 50-52 feet was noted. The odor itself was not distinctive. Wayne Turney, MRA said it was creosote, Aaron Duhon noted a mothball odor, or it may have

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been soap (used to lubricated pipe threads). No visual contamination was observed. Upon my departure at 1610 the crew was still drilling. Duct tape and strapping tape were introduced into the borehole. The consequences of this is not clear, adhesive could affect analytical results on soil samples; however, no debris was included in the samples and it is very likely that suspect tape will never contact the samples. All other procedures observed were performed in accordance to specifications.

Copies of all field notes taken are attached.

SAL/saw

Attachments

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